IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for ranking information, comprising:

receiving a plurality of query results of a plurality of search queries that were submitted separately;

merging the plurality of query results into a merged query result, the merged query result being associated with the plurality of search queries;

determining a first ranking sequence of the merged query result;

presenting the merged query result to a user according to the first ranking sequence;

identifying an input signal from the user indicating an interest in a first piece of information in the merged query result;

identifying a search query from the plurality of search queries associated with the merged query result, the identified search query being associated with a query result including the first piece of information, the query result from among the plurality of query results;

adjusting a query factor associated with the identified search query responsive to the input signal;

locating a second piece of information in the query result associated with the identified search query;

determining a score for the second piece of information based at least in part on the query factor associated with the identified search query;

determining a second ranking sequence of the merged query result based at least in part on the score; and

presenting the merged query result to the user according to the second ranking sequence.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first piece of information is included in a second query result associated with a second search query in the plurality of search queries, the second query result from among the plurality of query results, the method further comprising:

identifying the second search query from the plurality of search queries responsive to identifying the input signal;

determining a first index score of the first piece of information in the search result associated with the identified search query, the first index score measuring how well keywords in the identified search query match the first piece of information;

determining a second index score of the first piece of information in the second query result associated with the second search query, the second index score measuring how well keywords in the second search query match the first piece of information;

adjusting a second query factor associated with the second search query responsive to the input signal and based on the second index score, wherein adjusting the query factor associated with the identified search query comprises adjusting the query factor based on the first index score;

locating a third piece of information in the second query result associated with the second search query;

determining a second score for the third piece of information based at least in part on the second query factor associated with the second search query;

wherein determining the second ranking sequence of the merged query result further comprising determining the second ranking sequence of the merged query result based at least in part on the score for the second piece of information and the second score for the third piece of information.

~~the input signal indicates a selection of the first piece of information.~~

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the input signal comprises lack of selection of the first piece of information for at least a specified amount of time from when the first piece of information is displayed to the user.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the input signal comprises user activity associated with the first piece of information.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the user activity comprises one or more of viewing duration, scrolling, mouse movement, selection of links from the first piece of information, saving, printing, and bookmarking.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the input signal further comprises user activity associated with articles linked from the first piece of information.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

identifying parts of text typed by the user, the parts including at least two of the following: nouns, verbs, and proper nouns; and

generating the plurality of search queries based on the identified parts.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the input signal comprises a user rating.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein one of the plurality of search queries comprises one of query type, query term, application, type of application, article type, and event type.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the query type comprises one of current sentence, current paragraph, text near the cursor, extracted terms, and identified entries.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the score comprises a relevance score.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the score comprises a popularity score.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising increasing a refresh rate of a display of the merged query result to the user responsive to receiving input signals at an increasing frequency.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the input signal is a first input signal and the interest is a first interest, further comprising:

receiving a second input signal indicating a second interest in a third piece of information; and

varying a refresh rate of a display of the merged query result to the user based at least in part on the duration between receiving the first input signal and the second input signal.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the input signal comprises multiple input signals.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating the plurality of search queries based on a plurality of data streams; and

executing the plurality of search queries for the plurality of search results.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the plurality of data streams comprise a data stream describing current contextual state of a user.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product having a computer-readable storage medium having executable computer program instructions tangibly embodied thereon for ranking information, the executable computer program instructions comprising instructions for:

receiving a plurality of query results of a plurality of search queries that were submitted separately;

merging the plurality of query results into a merged query result, the merged query result being associated with the plurality of search queries;

determining a first ranking sequence of the merged query result;

presenting the merged query result to a user according to the first ranking sequence;

identifying an input signal from the user indicating an interest in a first piece of information in the merged query result;

identifying a search query from the plurality of search queries associated with the merged query result, the identified search query being associated with a query result including the first piece of information, the query result from among the plurality of query results;

adjusting a query factor associated with the identified search query responsive to the input signal;

locating a second piece of information in the query result associated with the identified search query;

determining a score for the second piece of information based at least in part on the query factor associated with the identified search query;

determining a second ranking sequence of the merged query result based at least in part on the score; and

presenting the merged query result to the user according to the second ranking sequence.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 18, the executable computer program instructions further comprising instructions for increasing a refresh rate of a display of the merged query result to the user responsive to receiving input signals at an increasing frequency.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 18, wherein the input signal is a first input signal and the interest is a first interest, the executable computer program instructions further comprising instructions for:

receiving a second input signal indicating a second interest in a third piece of information; and

varying a refresh rate of a display of the merged query result to the user based at least in part on the duration between receiving the first input signal and the second input signal.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 18, the executable computer program instructions further comprising instructions for:

generating the plurality of search queries based on a plurality of data streams; and

executing the plurality of search queries for the plurality of search results.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the second ranking sequence comprises:

determining the second ranking sequence of at least some of the merged query result based at least in part on the score, the at least some of the merged query result associated with at least two search queries.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 18, wherein the first piece of information is included in a second query result associated with a second search query in the plurality of search queries, the second query result from among the plurality of query results, wherein the executable computer program instructions further comprises instructions for:

identifying the second search query from the plurality of search queries responsive to identifying the input signal;

determining a first index score of the first piece of information in the search result associated with the identified search query, the first index score measuring how well keywords in the identified search query match the first piece of information;

determining a second index score of the first piece of information in the second query result associated with the second search query, the second index score measuring how well keywords in the second search query match the first piece of information;

adjusting a second query factor associated with the second search query responsive to the input signal and based on the second index score, wherein adjusting the query factor associated with the identified search query comprises adjusting the query factor based on the first index score;

locating a third piece of information in the second query result associated with the second search query;

determining a second score for the third piece of information based at least in part on the second query factor associated with the second search query;

wherein determining the second ranking sequence of the merged query result further comprising determining the second ranking sequence of the merged query result based at least in part on the score for the second piece of information and the second score for the third piece of information.

~~method of claim 1, further comprising:~~

~~generating the plurality of search queries; and~~

~~adding information from results of the plurality of search queries into the merged query result.~~

24. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 18, the executable computer program instructions further comprising instructions for:

generating the plurality of search queries associated with the merged query result; and

adding information from results of the plurality of search queries into the merged query result.

25. (Currently Amended) A query system for ranking information, comprising:

a computer processor for executing computer program instructions;

a computer-readable storage medium having executable computer program instructions tangibly embodied thereon, the executable computer program instructions comprising instructions for:

a module configured to receive a plurality of query results of a plurality of search queries that were submitted separately;

a module configured to merge the plurality of query results into a merged query result, the merged query result being associated with the plurality of search queries;

a module configured to determine a first ranking sequence of the merged query result;

a module configured to present the merged query result to a user according to the first ranking sequence;

a module configured to identify an input signal from the user indicating an interest in a first piece of information in the merged query result;

a module configured to identify a search query from the plurality of search queries associated with the merged query result, the identified search query being associated with a query result including the first piece of information, the query result from among the plurality of query results;

a module configured to adjust a query factor associated with the identified search query responsive to the input signal;

a module configured to locate a second piece of information in the query result associated with the identified search query;

a module configured to determine a score for the second piece of information based at least in part on the query factor associated with the identified search query;

a module configured to determine a second ranking sequence of the merged query result based at least in part on the score; and

a module configured to present the merged query result to the user according to the second ranking sequence.

26. (Currently Amended) The query system of claim 25, wherein the first piece of information is included in a second query result associated with a second search query in the plurality of search queries, the second query result from among the plurality of query results, the executable computer program instructions further comprises instructions for:

a module configured to identify the second search query from the plurality of search queries responsive to identifying the input signal;

a module configured to determine a first index score of the first piece of information in the search result associated with the identified search query, the first index score measuring how well keywords in the identified search query match the first piece of information;

a module configured to determine a second index score of the first piece of information in the second query result associated with the second search query, the second index score measuring how well keywords in the second search query match the first piece of information;

a module configured to adjust a second query factor associated with the second search query responsive to the input signal and based on the second index score, wherein the module configured to adjust the query factor associated with the identified search query is further configured to adjust the query factor based on the first index score;

a module configured to locate a third piece of information in the second query result associated with the second search query;

a module configured to determine a second score for the third piece of information based at least in part on the second query factor associated with the second search query;

wherein the module configured to determine the second ranking sequence of the merged query result is further configured to determine the second ranking sequence of the merged query result based at least in part on the score for the second piece of information and the second score for the third piece of information.

~~further comprising:~~

~~a module configured to receive a user input; and~~

~~a module configured to generate the plurality of search queries based on the user input.~~

27. (Previously Presented) The query system of claim 25, further comprising a module configured to increase a refresh rate of a display of the merged query result to the user responsive to receiving input signals at an increasing frequency.

28. (Previously Presented) The query system of claim 25, further comprising:

a module configured to receive a second input signal indicating a second interest in a third piece of information; and

a module configured to vary a refresh rate of a display of the merged query result to the user based at least in part on the duration between receiving the first input signal and the second input signal.